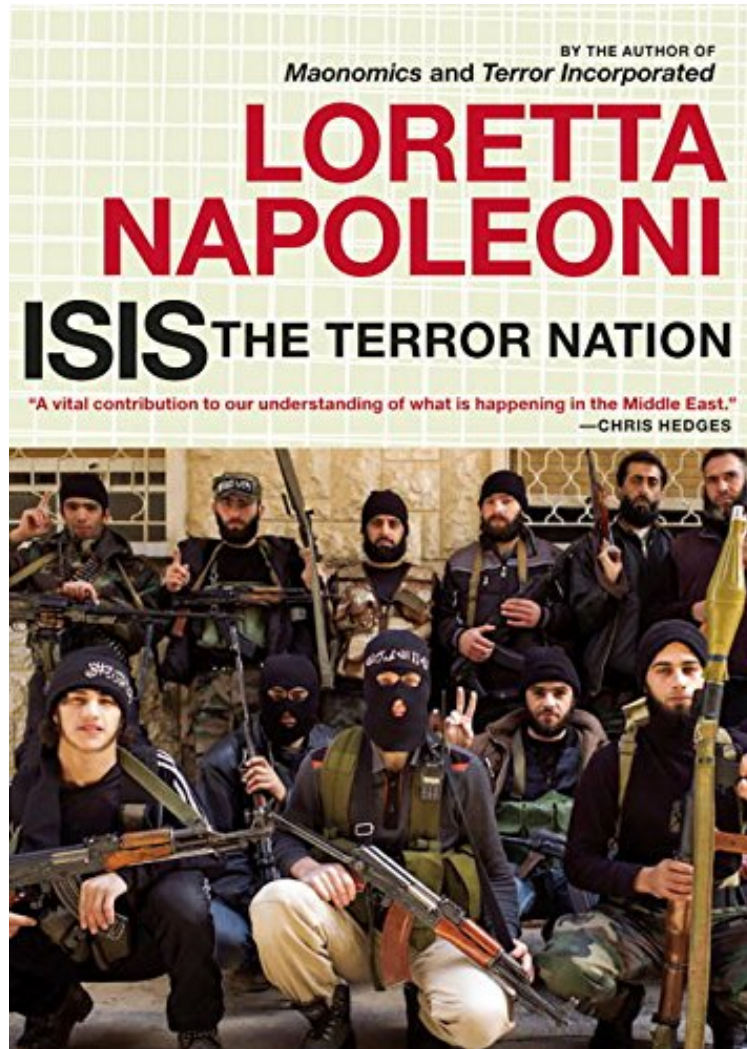


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ISIS: The Terror Nation

Loretta Napoleoni

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Loretta Napoleoni : ISIS: The Terror Nation before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised ISIS: The Terror Nation:

From its birth in the late 1990s as the jihadist dream of terrorist leader Abu Musab al Zaraqawi, the Islamic State (known by a variety of names, including ISIS, ISIL, and al Qaeda in Iraq) has grown into a massive enterprise, redrawing national borders across the Middle East and subjecting an area larger than the United Kingdom to its own vicious brand of Sharia law. In ISIS: The Terror Nation, world-renowned terrorism expert Loretta Napoleoni builds on

her international best-selling *The Islamic Phoenix*, with new chapters on the Islamic State's recruitment of Western women, economic strategy, and recent terrorist attacks around the world. Napoleoni takes us beyond the headlines, demonstrating that while Western media portrays the Islamic State as little more than a gang of thugs on a winning streak, the organization is proposing a new model for nation building. Waging a traditional war of conquest to carve out the twenty-first-century version of the original Caliphate, ISIS uses modern technology to recruit and fundraise while engaging the local population in the day-to-day running of the new state. Rising from the ashes of failing jihadist enterprises, the Islamic State has shown a deep understanding of Middle Eastern politics, fully exploiting proxy war and shell-state tactics. This is not another terrorist network but a formidable enemy in tune with the new modernity of the current world disorder. As Napoleoni writes, "Ignoring these facts is more than misleading and superficial, it is dangerous. 'Know your enemy' remains the most important adage in the fight against terrorism."

"A vital contribution to our understanding of what is happening in the Middle East." Chris Hedges
"The Islamist Phoenix is a great entry point for those in want of a more solid understanding of the history and social complexities involved in the rise of the Islamic State. Loretta Napoleoni explains how this iteration of Islamism does not form from a vacuum, but almost inevitably, and sometimes knowingly, from the circumstances and conditions of the West's recent involvement in the Middle East in the last century. The Islamic State can, and almost certainly will, be defeated. But how it is defeated is what truly matters, especially in the years, decades, and centuries to come." Chelsea Manning
"Clear, concise, and unequivocal. A timely book in which the author brings her in-depth knowledge and expertise to bear on a dangerous development in the international terrorism arena that has been totally misread by the West and its allies." Michael Chandler, co-author of *Countering Terrorism* and chairman of the former UN Security Council al Qaeda Sanctions Committee Monitoring Team
About the Author
A woman of the left who garners praise from Noam Chomsky and Greg Palast at the same time as she is quoted respectfully in *Forbes* and the *Wall Street Journal*, LORETTA NAPOLEONI was born in 1955 in Rome. In the mid-1970s she became an active member of the feminist movement in Italy, and later studied as a Fulbright Scholar at Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies in Washington, DC. She began her career as an economist, and went on to work as London correspondent and columnist for *La Stampa*, *La Repubblica*, and *La Pas*. Napoleoni's most recent book is *Merchants of Men: How Jihadists and ISIS Turned Kidnapping and Refugee Trafficking into a Multibillion-Dollar Business*. Among other internationally best-selling titles are *Rogue Economics: Capitalism's New Reality*, and *Terror Incorporated: Tracing the Money Behind Global Terrorism*. She has served as the chairman of the countering terrorism financing group for the Club de Madrid, and lectures regularly around the world on economics, money laundering, and terrorism. Napoleoni lives in London and Montana.